

NAMES OF MEN OF WAR AND YACHTS EXPLAINED

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Names of Men of War and Yachts Explained by F. G. Crofton

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F. G. CROFTON

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OF

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AND

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BY

COMMANDER, THE HON. F. G. CROFTON, R.N.

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COWES:

J. HALL SMITH,

PRINTER AND STATIONER TO THE R.Y.S.,

1877.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.

NOTICE.



I crave indulgence for inaccuracies and imperfections in this little book, it having been written and printed in a very great hurry, as I anticipated having to leave England before I could finish it.

If owners will kindly send me their wishes respecting their yachts' names, I shall be exceedingly grateful, and will endeavour to have the next Edition as correct as possible.

Letters addressed to the Coast Guard Station, Cowes, will be forwarded to me.

F. C.



- ABANA** A River of Damascus, mentioned in Scripture.
- ABOUKIR** A Bay on the coast of Egypt, close to the Mouth of the Nile, where Nelson's great battle was fought, August 1st, 1798.
- ABRONA** The goddess who protected voyagers(Latin).
- ABRUNA** A place in Italy?
- ACHILLES** The great Hero of Iliad; a Grecian who was the swiftest footed amongst the Greeks, and who signalised himself at the siege of Troy; and is said to have been dipped by his mother in the river Styx, which rendered him invulnerable in every part except his right heel, by which she held him. He was the most handsome and bravest of all the Greeks. He killed Hector after chasing him three times round the city. He was at length killed by Paris with an arrow which struck the only vulnerable part about him.

- ACTÆON** A celebrated hunter, who whilst hunting saw Diana and her Nymphs bathing; was changed by her into a stag and was killed by his own dogs.
- ADROIT** Dexterous, skilful, smart [French].
- ÆGER** Difficult [Latin].
- AGAMEMNON** A General who commanded the Greek army at the siege of Troy, celebrated for his dignity and majesty, and called by Homer "King of Men." Married Clytemnestra, sister of Helen. When Helen was stolen by Paris, Agamemnon was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Grecian forces going against Troy. Their fleet being detained at Aulis he sacrificed his daughter to appease Diana. His dispute with Achilles before the walls of Troy respecting the captive Chryseis, and the consequent loss to the Greeks of the services of Achilles, forms one of the chief subjects of the Iliad. He was assassinated by his wife Clytemnestra, and his death was avenged by his son Orestes.
- ÆOLUS** Son of Jupiter and god of the Winds.
- AGLAIÀ** "The Bright One." One of the charities or graces.
- ÆGLE** "Brightness," or "Splendour." The name of several nymphs, said to be the most beautiful of them all.

- AEROLITE** (From the Greek words signifying) aer-air and lethos, a stone, *i.e.*, a stone fallen from the air.
- AIGLE** Eagle (French).
- AILEEN** Girl's name [Irish].
- AJAX** Son of Telamon, was, next to Achilles, the swiftest and bravest of all the Greeks in the Trojan war. To Ajax fell the lot of opposing Hector, when that hero had challenged the bravest of the Greeks to single combat. The glory of the combatants was equal in the engagement, and at parting they exchanged arms, the baldric of Ajax serving as the instrument by which Hector was attached to the ear of Achilles. After the death of Achilles, both Ajax and Ulysses laid claim to the arms of the hero. When they were given to the latter, Ajax became so enraged that in a fit of delirium he slaughtered a flock of sheep, supposing them to be the sons of Atreus, who had given the preference to Ulysses, and afterwards stabbed himself with his sword, which had been amongst the arms exchanged with Hector, and thus, by a singular fatality, the present mutually conferred contributed to their mutual destruction.
- Another account says that he went with forty ships to the Trojan war, as one of Helen's suitors. The night on which Troy was taken he offered violence to Cassandra, who had fled into Minerva's Temple; and for this offence the goddess destroyed his ship in a storm. Ajax swam to a rock, and said

that he was safe in spite of all the gods. Such impiety offended Neptune, who struck the rock with his trident, and Ajax was precipitated into the sea with part of the rock and was drowned. Virgil relates his death differently.

AKBAR The greatest and wisest of all the monarchs who have swayed the sceptre of Hindostan. Born 1542. Died 1605.

ALADDIN From the tale in the Arabian Nights of "Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp."

ALBION "The White Land;" a name for Great Britain. (Lat.)

ALDA Female of Aldus. (Latin.)

ALCYONE A Pleiad daughter of Atlas and Pleione and beloved by Neptune.

Daughter of Æolus and Enarete and wife of Ceyx; her husband having perished in a shipwreck, Alcyone for grief threw herself into the sea, but the gods, out of compassion, changed them both into birds. While the birds Alcyone were breeding calms always prevailed at sea, as they sat on their nests on the surface of the waters. [Hence Halcyon days.]

ALCESTE Wife of Admetus. Apollo prevailed on the Fates to grant Admetus deliverance from death if his father, mother, or wife would die for him. Alceste died in his stead. She was afterwards rescued from Hades by Hercules.

ALECTO	One of the Furies. See <i>Megeera</i> .
ALGERNIE	Girl's name.
ALGERINE	A native of Algeria.
ALIGENA	Girl's name. Alice (Italian).
ALKELDA	
ALLEGRA	Lively. (Italian.)
ALMA	Beautiful, Fair (Latin). Soul, in Italian poetry, or the celebrated battle fought, Sept. 20th, 1854.
ALOUETTE	Lark (French).
ALRUNA	Witch [Scandinavian].
ALTHEA	A flowering shrub (Greek).
ALUMINA	A soft clay.
AMBA	A word sometimes used for dawn (Italian). Also the fruit of the mango tree [Spanish]
AMADINE	A tropical bird (Spanish).
AMPHION	Son of Jupiter and Antiope. Amphion received a lyre from Mercury, on which he played with such magic skill that the stones moved of their own accord and formed the